

May 3, 1983

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Rod Johnson amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. How many are excused now? Do you have another amendment on it? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 13 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The Rod Johnson amendment is adopted. Before we go to the next amendment may I announce some visitors of Senator Warner. In the North balcony there are 11 students from Norris High School in the Fifth and Hickman area. Ken Kasperek is with them. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business I propose to sign and do sign LR 78. Do you have another amendment, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is by Senator Beutler.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would like to introduce you to the next exciting chapter of 3M versus Flex-O-Lite. 3M, you may recall, is the company that favors fully reflectorized plates. The 3Ms stand for multitudinous money-making monopolies, I think, at least somebody said that. It is the same company that has fully funded the Jim Ryan retirement fund and has also fully responsible for the Bob Clark annual headache versus of course, Flex-O-Lite in the white trunks. The amendment that I am offering you today basically would say that the Department of Motor Vehicles has the power to accept bids on partially reflectorized plates or on fully reflectorized plates. Right now they have no alternative and the only thing they can do is accept bids on fully reflectorized plates. This would give the Department the alternative if they so choose to accept bids on partially reflectorized plates. The reasons for the amendment are basically because I feel that partially reflectorized plates are (1) much less expensive. The estimated cost, I don't think there is much dispute on that, are somewhere between a third and a half of what fully reflectorized plates would cost and that is a savings of somewhere perhaps in the neighborhood of a half a million dollars. In addition to that, the partially reflectorized plates, that is plates where the letters and the numerals are reflectorized, tend to be favored by patrolmen because